THE RISE AND FALL OF SHAWN MICHAELS: PART DEUCE



WHY, SHAWN, WHY?

Vic Venom's
Theory on the
Michaels/Hart
Conspiracy



NOVEMBER 1997





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FEDERATION FANatics



Name: Lauren Zukauskas

Age: 13

Hometown: Waterbury, Connecticut **School:** West Side Middle School

Grade: Eighth

Future Ambition: To one day meet the entire Hart Foundation

Favorite Federation Superstar: Bret "Hit Man" Hart
Least Favorite Federation Superstar: Stone Cold Steve

Austin

What I like best about the World Wrestling Federation:

Watching Bret "Hit Man" Hart on RAW IS WAR

If I were president of the World Wrestling Federation,

I would: Fire Steve Austin and give all the Hart Foundation members raises.

What I do when I'm not watching the
World Wrestling Federation: I read my World Wrestling
Federation Magazines and play with my dog Blackie.

Name: Doug Saunders

Age: 10

Hometown: Laconia, New Hampshire

School: Pleasant Street School

Grade: Fifth

Future Ambition: To become a NBA basketball player

Favorite Federation Superstar: Flash Funk

Least Favorite Federation Superstar: Bret "Hit Man" Hart

What I like best about the World Wrestling Federation:

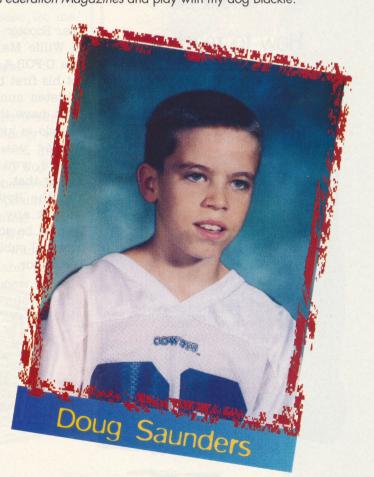
The great Pay-Per-View events!

If I were president of the World Wrestling Federation, I would: Give Flash Funk a shot at

the Federation Title.

What I do when I'm not watching the World Wrestling Federation:

I play with my Sony Playstation and trade baseball cards.





Federation locker rooms instead, or perhaps some kind of new department like face-to-face interviews! Will anything go in its place?

Richard S. Hatmaker Ocean City, Maryland

Dear Richard.

While Scoop Sullivan is currently on "vacation", we are not quite sure when—or if—he'll return. However, I do appreciate your ideas if Scoop does decide to go AWOL!!!

The Editor

E-mail

Dear Editor,

Me and my friends are writing to the World Wrestling Federation Magazine because we want to ask you why Bret Hart is such a hypocrite! Every week we watch him come out to the ring and put his crybaby face on and talk trash about the good ol' U.S.A.... and then he wrestles Americans! If he loves Canada so much, then why are 75 percent of the people he wrestles U.S. citizens? Was he born a hypocrite or did someone piledrive him too hard?

Andy Mannanan ANDYMAN55@aol.com



Dear Andy,

Whereas I appreciate your comments, the answer to your question is obvious—Bret Hart WRESTLES Americans because he wants to BEAT Americans!!!

Letter

Dear Editor,

I want to know what is going on with the Golden Haired Fox, Sunny! Did she do anything wrong, or is it just that Sable is more popular than her now? I watched six recent episodes of RAW IS WAR and I only saw her once! Did she run off with someone, or is she secretly trying to sign a new superstar? I don't care what she's doing, only that she needs to start managing again! Could you please let me know what her status is?

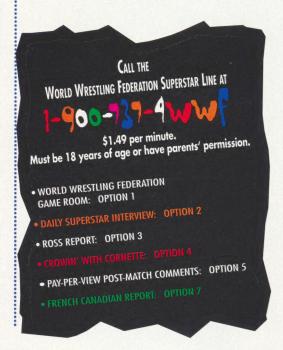
Dennis Lo Whitby, Ontario, Canada

Dear Dennis.

Excellent question! The truth is, you NEVER KNOW exactly what Sunny is up to! However, knowing the Golden Haired Fox the way I do, I can only believe that her absence IS conspicuous. If rumors mean anything—AND, YOU KNOW THEY DO—I did hear her recently drop the names of ANIMAL and HAWK during a recent interview on the World Wrestling Federation Superstar Line! ROCCO—MOVE OVER!!!



Drawing by David McCazzio





Beware the Goldust Woman

(The views and opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of Titan Sports and the World Wrestling Federation.)

"DID SHE MAKE YOU CRY

MAKE YOU BREAK DOWN

SHATTER YOUR ILLUSIONS OF LOVE

IS IT OVER NOW—DO YOU KNOW HOW TO

PICK UP THE PIECES AND GO HOME."

STEVIE NICKS <u>GOLD D</u>UST WOMAN—1976

The Date: August 25, 1997

As I sit here in the bowery of Titan Towers—my office—the "Indecent Proposal" match between Goldust and Brian Pillman is some 13 days away. If Pillman loses, he leaves the World Wrestling Federation. If he wins... he gets the personal services of Marlena for one month.

Kidz, if you don't see the writing in Pillman's eyes,

then you'd better put some Visine in yours!

Side by side with the Loose Cannon, the Goldust Woman is setting up hubby for the big fall. Not only will Brian Pillman win that match at Ground Zero, but after the 30 days... Marlena WILL STAY with Pillman!!! You think I'm nuts? Yeah, and I suppose you know the Goldust Woman the way I do, too! Let me tell you a little something about TERRI RUNNELS—IN MY HUMBLE OPINION, OF COURSE!!! She is a bigger EGOMANIAC even than the Heartbreak Kid Shawn Michaels himself!!! Believe me, if it were up to Marlena, she would lead Goldust to the spotlight—then drop him off the deep end and let him choke on her cigar smoke!!!

Mommy and me—GIMME A BREAK!!! Dustin Runnels spends more time parenting Dakota than Eddie's father did courtshippin' Eddie!!! While Dustin is off changin some !@#\$% poopie diaper, Terri is busy spewing bull@#\$! into Vince McMahon's ear about what SHE could do for the World Wrestling Federation—forget Dustin, THE POOR SAP! Forget that he's given his blood, sweat and tears to this business

for over 10 years. To Marlena, or TERRI, he's nothing more than HER @#\$%! TICKET OUT!!!

Am I being harsh? You're damn right I am. BUT, we'll see who's harsh on October 7—the last "official" day of Terri's "forced" captivity. We'll see who's harsh when Terri drops Dustin like a bad habit. We'll see who's harsh when the Goldust Woman latches onto Brian Pillman—like the leech that she is—with the hope that such a drastic act will assure her of making a name for herself! C'mon, DO YOU THINK THAT BODY'S REAL? She's had more plastic surgery on her "upper torso" than Michael Jackson's had on his freakin' schnozz!!! Why do women let strangers mold their bodies? TO GET AHEAD, THAT'S WHY!!! TO MAKE THEMSELVES STAND OUT!!! TO BE NOTICED!!! Terri Runnels is DYING for attention, and like the Nation, she is determined to get it—BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY!!!

Dustin, I respect your talents, but you, my friend, are a big bag of SAP!!! Let the air out of Terri's BALLOONS before she takes the gold and leaves you in the dust! When you strip it all away, SHE'S A WOMAN!!! And like MOST women (I say MOST because I am NOT—by any means—a male chauvinist)—she is only out for herself!

WILL SHE MAKE YOU CRY?

MAKE YOU BREAK DOWN?

Only if you let her, pal!!! And believe me—THEY AIN'T WORTH IT!!!

TAKA MICHINOKU

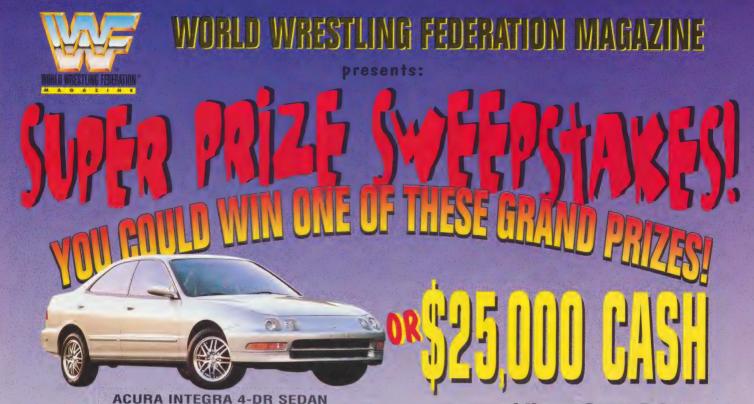
When fans think of Japanese grapplers, many remember the martial arts prowess combined with a stoic personality of past World Wrestling Federation competitors such as Tatsumi Fujinami and Antonio Inoki. Newcomer Taka Michinoku, however, combines daredevil risks and a quick smile with the style of his ancestors. Today, ring veterans from the Far East praise the youngster's impressive skills, but the conservative culture still frowns on his showboating. He has traveled around the world many times in his five years as a pro, but perhaps has now found a home in the Federation, where his natural person-

At the recent "Canadian Stampede" Pay-Per-View spectacular, a surprising turn of events occurred in the match featuring the legendary Great Sasuke and Michinoku... a move which perhaps changed the future of the Light Heavyweight Division. Going into the encounter, Sasuke had garnered all the media's attention, while Taka had quietly entered Canada poised to face his fellow Michinoku pro competitor. Sasuke may have escaped with a victory that night in Calgary, but the 23-year-old clearly won the popularity contest, as never before in defeat has so much respect and admiration been given to an unknown in the United States. Teamed with uncanny ability his charisma rocketed Michinoku into the hearts of millions that night.

ality is allowed to shine along with his wrestling abilities.

Personality is not all that the young man from the Far East brings to the table. A vast array of high-risk aerial maneuvers combined with a devastating finisher—the Michinoku Driver—is what many experts are calling the winning formula to propel Taka to the top of the Light Heavyweight Division. That combination of offensive firepower and sound fundamentals could spell trouble for the other global stars who will enter the Federation.

With a small but increasing English vocabulary, this youngster may find communicating with the fans in the United States difficult. But one glimpse of that wide smile shows that Taka is excited to be competing in the "big time". While Japanese elders shake their heads in disbelief at his success, the future of the Light Heavyweight Division can't help but be brighter.



ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS:

To enter the Sweepstakes without purchasing this magazine or a subscription, send name and complete address to: World Wrestling Federation Magazine, P.O. Box 485, Mount Morris, It. 61054-8393. One entry per envelope.

OFFICIAL RULES . NO PURCHASE, PAYMENT OR CONTRIBUTION NECESSARY

To enter the Sweepstakes outlined below, follow all entry instructions published in this offer. Your entry must be received by the date specified elsewhere in this offer or by 1/15/98, whichever is sooner.

SUPER PRIZE SWEEPSTAKES

Winners will be selected in random drawings from all eligible entries received. Early Bird winner will be selected in a separate drawing from among all eligible entries. Sweepstakes begins 9/3/96. Drawings will be conducted on a about 4/30/98 by Yentura Associates, Inc., an independent judging organization whose decisions are final. Drawing will be held at 1040 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10018. You need not be present to win.

CONSUMER DISCLOSURE

Different creative presentations of the sweepstakes may present different prize choices. Values at a given prize level will be approximately the same. All prize winners will have the option of selecting any prize offered at level won. Number, estimated maximum retail value and odds of winning each prize are as follows: 1 Grand Prize—\$25,000 (or cash alternative of \$25,000); 1 First Prize—\$2,000; 1 Second Prize—\$1,000; 50 Third Prize—\$5,000. Lover hrizes—\$55,000. Total prize value: \$102,000.00. Certain creative presentations of the Super Prize Sweepstakes may present an Early Bird Prize. To qualify for the Early Bird Prize, if the Early Bird Prize is presented in your offer, your entry must be received by the Early Bird date specified elsewhere in this offer. Odds of winning any prize are determined by the total number of eligible entries received. Distribution of sweepstakes will not exceed 300 million. All Super Prize Sweepstakes will be awarded.

Automobile, boat/trailer prizes must be picked up at local dealer. All other merchandise prizes will be shipped to winner. Boat/trailer and/or automobile title, tags, license and registration fees are winner's responsibility as are any other incidental expenses not specified in the offer. Trip prizes subject to availability and must be completed within 12 months of date awarded. Actual values of trips depend on location of winners and fares at time of departure. Certain restrictions and blackout dates may apply. If a trip is won by a minor, minor must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
Winner's traveling companion will be required to sign a release of liability prior to departure. Trip prizes are on a space available basis and do not include personal purchases or incidentals. No substitution of prizes, except sponsor reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value in the event an advertised prize is unavailable

For winners list (available after 6/30/98), send self-addressed, stamped envelope by 1/15/98 to: Super Prize Winners, P.O. Box 9193, Medford, NY 11763-9193.

THE FOLLOWING APPLIES TO THE SWEEPSTAKES ABOVE

No purchase, payment or contribution necessary to enter or win. No photocopied or mechanically reproduced entries will be accepted. Not responsible for technical malfunctions, failure of computer, telephone equipment or software, inaccurate transmission of entry information or for lost, late, misdirected, damaged, incomplete, illegible or postage-due mail. All entries become the property of sponsors and none will be returned.

Winner notification will be by mail. A winner may be required to sign and return an Affidavit of Eligibility/Liability/Publicity Release within 14 days of date printed on notification or he/she will be disqualified. Any prize/prize notification returned as undeliverable will result in disqualification. If a major prize is won by a minor, it will be awarded to parent or legal guardian and the Affidavit of Eligibility and Release must be signed by the parent or legal guardian. Except where prohibited by law, winners consent to use their names, hometowns, likenesses and photographs for advertising and publicity without additional compensation

Sweepstakes is open to legal residents of the United States, Canada and Europe (in those areas where made available) who have received the offer. In the event that the designated recipient of the offer has moved, the offer may not be valid in that state, country or province to which the offer has been forwarded. Vaid in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. All federal, state, provincial and local laws and regulations apply.

All prize values are in U.S. currency. No transfer of prize permitted. A winner is responsible for all taxes on his/her prize.

Canadian residents, in order to win, must first correctly answer a time-limited skill testing question administered by mail. Any litigation regarding the conduct and awarding of a prize in this publicity contest by a resident of the province of Quebec may be submitted to the Regie des alroots, des courses et des leux

Sweepstakes may be presented in different creative presentations by different organizations. Ventura Associates, Inc., 1040 Avenue of the Americas, New Tork, NY 10018, the independent judging organization, hos provided all prizes at no charge. Ventura Associates, Inc., reserves the right to withdraw the promotion if it becomes technically corrupted. Employees of Sweepstakes Administrator, presenting organizations, their advertising agencies and promotional companies involved in this promotion and their families, agents, successors and assignees are ineligible to participate in the promotion and shall not be eligible for any prize awards payable to promotion. participants in violation of this term

or one of these Great Prizes:

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Panasonic VCR Plus Panasonic 27" TV and Panasonic Stereo System or

Pentium Desktop Computer w/CD-ROM

credit orders. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery

Toshiba 27" Color TV Plus Toshiba VCR Man's & Lady's

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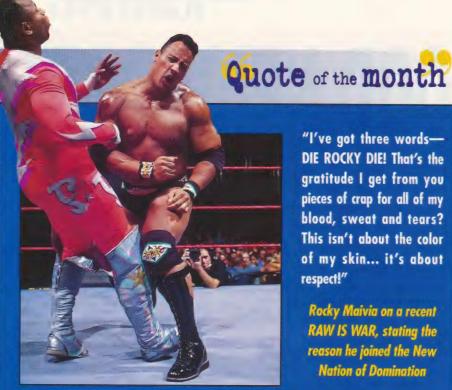
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"I've got three words-DIE ROCKY DIE! That's the gratitude I get from you pieces of crap for all of my blood, sweat and tears? This isn't about the color of my skin... it's about

Rocky Maivia on a recent RAW IS WAR, stating the reason he joined the New Nation of Domination

respect!"

THE FANS' FAUL

ack in November of 1996, former University of Miami stand-out and third-generation superstar Rocky Maivia made his debut in the World Wrestling Federation, becoming the lone superstar of his team at the Survivor Series. Following his successful entrance into the "big time", the son of former Federation Tag Team Champion Rocky Johnson went on to capture the Intercontinental Title from Hunter Hearst-Helmsley on an episode of RAW IS WAR in February. Just weeks later, chants of "Rocky Sucks" and "Die Rocky Die" began echoing inside arenas across the world as negative sentiment grew for the newcomer.

Apparently fans didn't agree with Maivia's quick rise to stardom in the Federation—and Rocky returned their attitude in an article in the September/October issue of the RAW Magazine. In the

piece, the former Intercontinental Champion popped off at the fans by claiming they had no right to judge him unless they had walked in his shoes. Another interesting quote was that he would not give into the masses' calls for him to embrace a rulebreaking ideology. However, after returning from a knee injury that kept him out of action for over a month, the pressure was apparently too much for Rocky to bear as he joined the New Nation of Domination. The reason—he would state during an episode of RAW IS WAR-had nothing to do with race, but rather so that he could finally get the respect he deserved. Since then, Maivia has continued to climb the ladder in the Federation alongside Faaroog, Kama Mustafa and D-Lo Brown. But one must wonder if he regrets his choice as the chorus of boos has only increased!

October 18 Fort Worth, TX 19 Wichita, KS Oklahoma City, OK (RAW)

21	Tulsa, OK	(RAW)
22	Lexinaton	KY

23	Evansville,	IN

31	Roc	hes	ter.	NY
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November

Utica,	NY

2	D:		mton	K IV
/	Din	ana	mton.	INIY

Hershey, PA (RAW)

Toronto, ONT

Detroit, MI

Montreal, QUE (Survivor Series)

10 Ottawa, ONT (RAW)

Cornwall, ONT (RAW)

Barrie, ONT

Youngstown, OH

14 Pittsburgh, PA

15 MSG, NYC

16 Baltimore, MD





You Don't Say



Ithough the Godwinns returned to their Bitters, Arkansas, roots recently, the two hog farmers are also fans of the Wild West at heart! Apparently, Phineas is such an enthusiast that he has a tattoo of legendary gun slinger Doc Holliday on his arm!

ASPIRING WRITERS... TAKE NOTE

Prior to the SummerSlam Pay-Per-View spectacular this past August, the World Wrestling Federation site on America Online featured an exclusive writing contest for fans who either attended or purchased the event. The rules were simple—submit a story on your SummerSlam experience, and the top entries—in essay form—would be displayed in a special section on the site!

Within minutes of the conclusion of *SummerSlam*, thousands of fingers went to work on home computers all over the world, as entries were received from the United Kingdom, Israel, Africa, Canada and dozens of other countries from fans who were eager to have their names up in cyber-

space. For example, topics ranged from the Beach Party in the Continental Airlines Arena parking lot prior to the event, meeting various superstars at autograph sessions and the excitement of watching it in their air-conditioned homes! Above all, one common link among the entries was that it was perhaps the greatest *SummerSlam* in history!

For their creativity, the first 100 fans who entered received complimentary copies of collectible Federation programs featuring Stone Cold Steve Austin and the Undertaker! And a big congratulations went out to the following America Online fans who were the "prime cuts" above the rest: Mike151515, Am Perfect, Wrestle80, Vlore33196, Voodoo42, LesLevine, Alexis86, Bemo5.

Nov. 9-Survivor Series (Montreal, Quebec, CAN)

Dec. 7-In Your House (Springfield, MA)

Jan. 18-Royal Rumble (San Jose, CA)

HOW TO ORDER PAY-PER-VIEW

Call your local cable company. Your cable operator will have specific information on how to order and the cost of each event. You can also check your last month's cable bill for a special ordering phone number for your system's pay-per-view events.

For satellite dish reception, via the larger C-Band dishes, call:

Prime Time 24 -1-800-989-7526

For direct satellite reception, via the smaller KU-Band dishes, call:

Direct TV - 1-800-347-3288

- 1) All events are on Sunday at 7pm ET.
- 2) Replays for all In Your House events at 10pm ET.
- Encores for all five other events are the Tuesday following the event.

The times of the encores are 8pm and 11pm ET.

more freezies

NOVEMBER'S SURVIVOR SERIES

The first 2,500 cable or satellite customers to send in copies of their cable bills showing purchase of November's *Survivor Series* will receive a World Wrestling Federation superstar dog tag. A copy of the bill must be received by January 30, 1998, and MUST show proof of purchase!

All bills should be sent to:

Survivor Series '97 P.O. Box 3857 Stamford, CT 06902



EDITOR: What has it been like competing under the Blackjacks name?

WINDHAM: I've really enjoyed it. My father isn't particularly happy about the entire thing... but my problems with my dad aside, I believe that there is nobody else who should be a Blackjack. Me and Bradshaw, we fit the mold perfectly and I couldn't have a better partner than Bradshaw.

EDITOR: Did you guys have a "break-in" period getting used to each other? Were there some rough spots in the beginning?

WINDHAM: I think that Vince McMahon and the Federation officials put us against each other for the longest time maybe to convince me to be a Blackjack, or Bradshaw was going to stomp the puckey out of me!

BRADSHAW: I think it was a testing period, putting us against each other in singles when Barry was "the Stalker" for three or four months. That was the testing period for me. Taking over the Blackjack name was quite a big role to step into and not anybody can do that, especially with the accomplishments Barry has made. Obviously, I am the less experienced by far and the weak link in the team.

EDITOR: Was there a lot of pressure initially? You were going to be teamed with Barry Windham, a guy who is a legend in the business.

BRADSHAW: I felt an extreme amount of pressure. To me, it was the equivalent of wrestling the Von Erichs for the first time when I was in Texas. Barry was as big a name as the Von Erichs or Bruiser Brody. When I broke in, I looked a lot like Barry and I did grow up in Sweetwater, Texas, which is Barry's hometown. All the promoters told me that I looked so much like him, so they gave me tons and tons of Barry Windham tapes to learn how to wrestle like him. My greatest influence was to wrestle like Barry Windham. That's where I got the Lariat. So, the first time I stepped into the ring with him—somebody I had emulated my entire wrestling life—there was a ton of pressure. On top of that, Blackjack Lanza is a Federation official, and to me, it is a tremendous honor that he would allow me to be a Blackjack and Barry as well. So I don't know if there is that much outward pressure from the office and the officials, but from the inside, I felt there was tons of it.

EDITOR: Has Lanza pulled you guys aside from time to time to give pointers?

WINDHAM: All the time—and he tells us we are both "Bad News in Boots". In other words, we are made for each other. He is the kind of "father figure" that I have been missing with my father's relationship being what it is. If we're messing up something or doing something

right, he is the first to tell us. We go looking for him every night.

EDITOR: He has been like a mentor for the team since its inception?

WINDHAM: We've both talked to Lanza until we're blue in the face about managing me and Bradshaw, but I guess he made a promise to himself that he wasn't going to do it anymore. But if he ever was going to manage again, he would only do it for us. But his answer is still no at the moment.

EDITOR: Are you still trying to convince him otherwise?

WINDHAM: Oh yeah, he just about hates us for it... (Laughs)

EDITOR: Bradshaw, if Barry is a teacher to you at all, what kind of teacher is he?

BRADSHAW: (Laughs) You couldn't ask for a better one. If I was stuck out there as a singles competitor, I wouldn't be near where I'm at now. Of course, I wouldn't have the partner I have now. Barry, as the old cliche goes, has forgotten more wrestling than a lot of guys know.

WINDHAM: Well, thank you.

BRADSHAW: (Laughs) It's only because he is so old, he forgets things.

WINDHAM: (Laughs)

BRADSHAW: I learn tons of stuff. I tend to get a little gung-ho, and I try to come up with different things every once in a while. Barry pulls me aside and says "what you are thinking of makes absolutely no sense. It's horrible. It's stupid. Please use your brain."

EDITOR: Okay, Windham, since you are the teacher of the team, what kind of student has Bradshaw been?

WINDHAM: I'll be real honest. I have taught him just a few things. I taught him that he can ride longer and party harder than any cowboy wrestler alive. (Laughs) It's just a tradition!

EDITOR: What are some of the areas that you are still trying to work on? What are some of the team's weaknesses right now?... If you have any.

WINDHAM: Of course we do. We are both driven personalities and we're both a little hard-headed in that we believe that our way is best. It's something that we are working on just about every day. It's our communication in the ring and working together. But, we believe



I wasn't going to sit home and get old and fat. I am still working on getting back into ring shape every day. My first year back after being out of the ring hasn't been scary, but I say to myself, "Man, I used to be able to cut a flip [execute an extraordinary maneuver]." Eddie Graham told me, "Be exciting! Cut a flip and \$%#@ on the ring lights! Everybody will notice ya!" That's my philosophy. If you get out there and keep moving, and if you're doing something exciting, the people will get behind you. It's something that I have had to reteach myself and it's something I see in Justin. He gets out there and he goes crazy. It's youth, but it's also the ability and it's something that I missed.

EDITOR: You guys sound like you are ready to work whenever you get into the ring. Is that the case with the other teams in the World Wrestling Federation? Is everybody willing to crank the competitive knob up a couple of notches?

BRADSHAW: I think so. We've got a huge crew right now. For the first time since I've been here, guys are getting some weekends off. We are off for the next month this time. You can't help but wonder, though, if your performance has helped to cause this even though you know it hasn't. Still, when you perform, you really want to go. I think more so now than ever and I think all of the teams do. You want to be part of the main crew that doesn't have any time off, but that's impossible now because you have so many teams. But Barry and I have always had the ability, with the upbringing we had in very similar surroundings in a small Texas town. But we've always worked hard and we have always played hard, too. That's been one of the problems...

WINDHAM: That ain't no problem!!! (Laughs)

BRADSHAW: (Laughs) Yeah, that's not a problem to us!!!

EDITOR: In that same vein, are there any particular stories from the

road that you care to share about the legacy that is being formed with the New Blackjacks? Without incriminating yourselves, of course.

WINDHAM: We love women!!! (Laughs) The perfect Blackjack woman is over 40 and over 240 pounds!



BRADSHAW: When we come out with a Blackjack shirt, we aren't going to have some silicone model wear our shirt! It's going to be small, medium, large and "BIG-UN"! You're going to see some woman the size of Bertha Faye [former World Wrestling Federation Women's Champion] get out there. You're not going to see all of this silicone or waxed legs. You're going to see a huge MONSTER of a woman in our shirt!!

WINDHAM: The Blackjacks don't plan on selling a lot of smalls and mediums, but we will sell a TON of "big-uns". (Laughs)

EDITOR: Let's talk about the legacy of the team and when the run for the New Blackjacks is over in many years—after what will surely be a long, successful career—how do you expect to see this edition of the Blackjacks viewed by history?

WINDHAM: I don't see us as rewriting it, but simply following a tradition. We have our own ways of doing things, not that the former Blackjacks approve of the way we conduct business, but we are going to be our own legacy. It won't be Lanza and Mulligan, it's going to be Bradshaw and Windham. It really will be that way. And somewhere down the road, in like 10 or 20 years, I'm sure there will be another set of Blackjacks. Who it will be I don't know. But we do things our own way and whether it conforms to a set or rules, we don't care. We already know that we have acceptance in the locker room and that's something that counts.

EDITOR: As far as being champions, how much pressure is there on you guys to become Tag Team Champions?

BRADSHAW: I think that has got to be the goal of every team because once you achieve that goal, you have become successful. If a guy has a competitive bone in his body, then he wants to be better off than what he is. We are happy being in the Federation, but we are not happy being in the position that we are in now. We want to be figured in the mix. We want to have the opportunity to perform. We don't have to come out with tons of pyro and be shoved down people's throats. We just want the opportunity to perform and we know that we are pressure players and if we get that chance, we will perform. As far as being champions... of course that is a goal, but because it's a sign that we are doing our job correctly. If a team doesn't want to be better off, then they are in the wrong position. They are in the wrong place.

WINDHAM: I don't see it as any pressure at all. I have been around wrestling my entire life. When something makes sense to me, it sooner or later is going to happen. We are a good enough team and we are coming around together good enough to where it's inevitable that we are going to be champions. It's going to happen.



SHAWN, WHY? SEAND FALL OF

SHAWN MICHAELS: DART DEUCE

By Vic Venom



What did you think... Russo's story was the end of it last month?

Hey, remember, Shawn Michaels wrote the Book of EGOMANIA!!! And, being an egomaniac means ALWAYS having to be in the spotlight. You don't just take it when you can get it, you DEMAND it! You go out and get it! You constantly leap over that edge just to keep your name in the headlines of the conversation. You DO things that others only DREAM about doing! I mean, let's face it, when's the last time Joe Blow

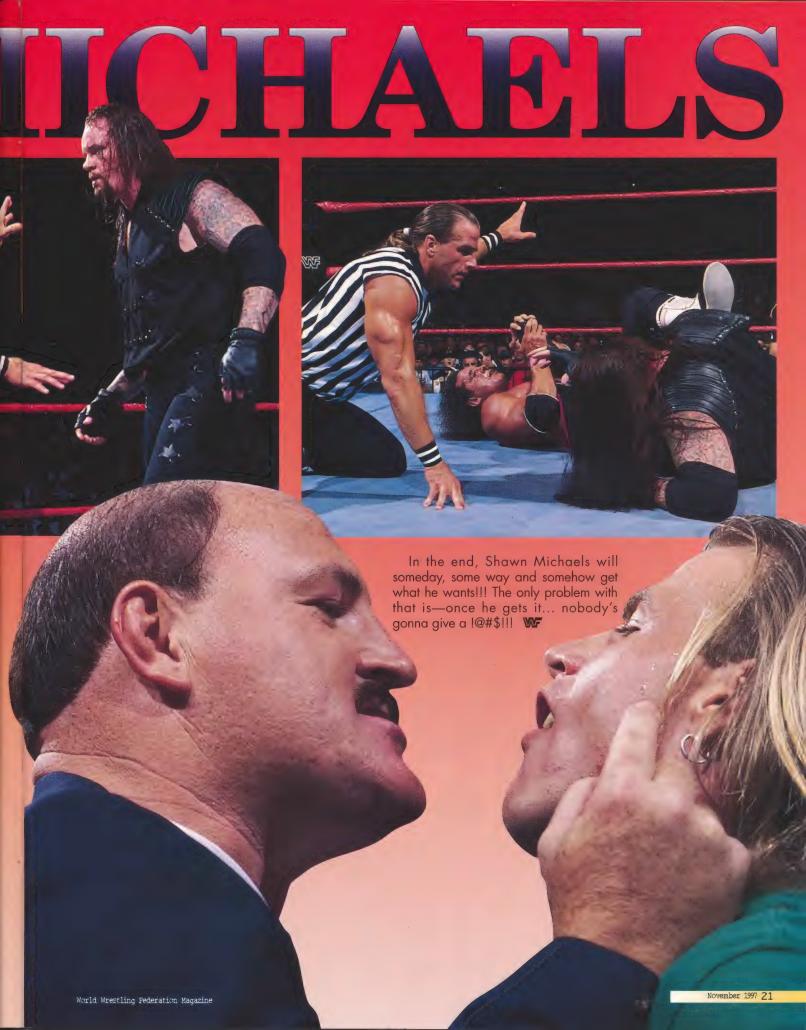
told his boss that he's the STUPIDEST SON OF A 1@#\$% THAT HE HAD EVER SEEN!!!

There's no end for Shawn Michaels! He will shock and he will shock again! The guy needs more attention than any middle child I've ever known! He will do things that go well beyond the realm of comprehension just so that some 12-year-old kid in Boise, Idaho, will say, "Hey, did you see what Shawn did?!"

And he @#\$%! the Undertaker for that very reason. Shawn Michaels @#\$%! the Undertaker just because Shawn Michaels could!

Kidz, there was a deal with the devil! It's as blatant as when that ex-football-player-turned-rent-a-car hustler said, "I wasn't even there! I was chippin' golf balls on my front lawn at the time!" Shawn and Bret shook hands and sealed the deal days prior to SummerSlam. Do I







S Paul Bearer By Bill Banks

The Root of Kane's Evil?

Very few people can truly comprehend what it means to be controlled. your entire life hanging on the words of others. It's a sad privilege usua associated with sanitarium inmates—people who watch time stand still straightjackets while their minds recover from some ill-fated experience Most physicians would call this form of treatment "rehabilitation", but in actuality it may only serve to manage the patient in a much more "subdued" way. These catatonic guinea pigs are puppets to men with authority tools of the very doctors they put their trust in to cure them.

Twenty years ago, the opportunity to play such a benevolent caretaker was presented to Paul Bearer Instead of taking the role of a healer, though... could the funeral home director have become the ultimate puppet master? Two decades ago, Kane survived the horrible blaze that killed his parents, but in the process his eyes might have witnessed an unspeakable terror that he wasn't meant to live through—a sight that might not only have revealed the truth about his parents' deaths, but may have implicated the rotund manager as the killer! Imagine a scenario that his eldest son, who we now know as takes place more than 20 years ago, before the flames not only tore through Kane's body, but also the familyowned funeral home. Then a young apprentice to the Undertaker's father, Paul perhaps expected to acquire the rights to the family business when the old man retired. Hoping to keep it "in the family", however, the father may have opted to hand over the reigns to

the Undertaker. After being denied his lifelong dream, the scorned apprentice may have concocted a murder plan that would not only snuff out Kane and the parents, but would have placed the Undertaker as the prime suspect!

In preparation for this tragic "accident", Bearer didn't have to look any further than the existing funeral parlor for the flammable liquid needed



It all makes perfect sense, as we have never heard of any "close relatives" within the phenom's life. Under the orders of the court, Bearer would have had no choice but to accept the orphan as his own and rear the child he had tried to frame.

Based on his appetite for greed, we can only imagine the dollar value that Paul placed on the older sibling's head... a sure meal ticket if he could, at the same time, keep Kane's exis-

tence shrouded. Against

all odds, it was

a feat he ac-

adulthood, during which time his brother rose to legendary status in the World Wrestling Federation. A little-known fact is that prior to making his television debut, the Grim Reaper adopted the name of "Kane the Undertaker" to pay homage to his "late" brother. Could Bearer have been so hell-bent on making his wrestling protege suffer that he scolded the phenom for his actions, perhaps even claiming it was a "desecration" of Kane's "spirit"?

complished into the burn victim's

Flash forward to the present...
the timeline in which the Man from

Undertaker, as Bearer claimed. Although he freely admits that both brothers played with matches, the Undertaker understandably had no qualms about placing the blame on his "deceased" brother when faced with accusations of murder. Never did the phenom stop to think that Paul could have set the blazing inferno, nor that the fat man was brainwashing the younger brother to believe the Undertaker did it! Was it any coincidence that Kane began his quest of rage only after those recent interviews, as he also probably

Like the macabre Michael Myers from the *Halloween* movies, could Kane's mind be so poisoned that he will stop at nothing to destroy his own sibling?

of the

the Dark Side learned of his brother's continuing existence. In recent interviews, the Undertaker has stated that it was Kane who started the fire and not the fault thought the other was lying? Pitting the brothers against each other would be Paul's key to escaping prosecution!

Sadly, no words in a magazine can halt the collision course between these two brothers. The only hope is that somewhere down this dark road of a family gone wrong, Bearer's arrogance might cause him to slip up and engineer his own downfall. While some semblance of a reasonable thought process still remains in Kane's rotted brain, he would most likely not hesitate to destroy his "savior" if the past two decades of his life were revealed to be nothing more than mere fabrication and lies.

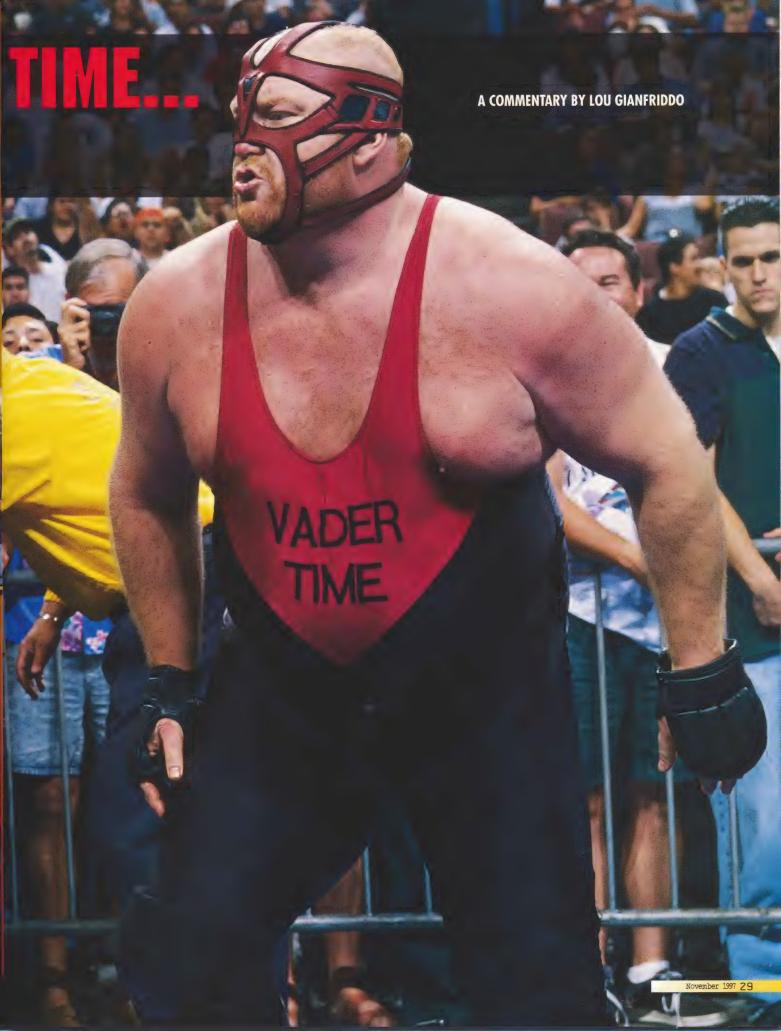
Only then might we see the puppet master dragged by his own strings, kicking and screaming into hell... by the Grim Reaper.



we stage-dive some goof in the ring! One day, Thrasher was thinkin' game. Concentrate!! I saw my chance for a SUPER STRIKE So I zapped him out of the game. **Built-in Target with 360° Detection Range** Fires Invisible Infrared Beams **Indoors and Outdoors Two Special Features: SUPER STRIKE and FORCE FIELD The Name That Made The Game.**

A CHARLES







FAVORITE BAND:

Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band

BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE:

Getting married, the birth of my son and winning 15 World Titles in 12 years.

PERSON YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO MEET:

John F. Kennedy—"I would love to go back in time and warn him."

FAVORITE SPORT (BESIDES WRESTLING):

Football

FAVORITE ATHLETE:

Lou Gehrig—"Despite his illness he never gave up."

FAVORITE TELEVISION SHOW:

Star Trek

HOBBIES:

Trampolining and taking swings in the batting cage in my back yard

FAVORITE FOOD:

Steak

FAVORITE FAST FOOD:

A lot of everything!



BEST ADVICE EVER RECEIVED:

I got into many fights while growing up in inner-city Los Angeles because I refused to join a gang. My high school football coach told me to keep my temper in check.

FAVORITE ACTOR:

John Wayne

FAVORITE ACTRESS:

Marilyn Monroe—"I would love to have met her."

FAVORITE VIDEO GAME:

Don't have time for them!

IF I COULD HAVE DONE IT DIFFERENTLY, I WOULD HAVE...

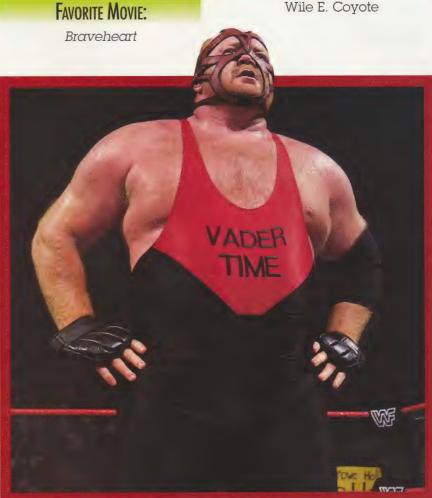
I would have come to the World Wrestling Federation with a different approach. Knowing what I now know, I would have come in more aggressively.

SECRET TALENT:

I can play the piano very well!

FAVORITE CARTOON CHARACTER:

Wile E. Coyote





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WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Stone Cold Steve Austin



RESILES

BRIAN PILLMAN

"If Gorilla Monsoon thinks I'm wearing a dress tomorrow night, he's out of his @#\$! mind!!!"



GOLDUST

"Talk about great endings! Frankly, my dear... he's wearing a DRESS!"



across the top rope. The tide shifted when Pillman hid behind Marlena outside the ring. Goldust showed hesitation and Pillman sprung forward, kicking and DDTing the flamboyant superstar.

Goldust rebounded and tried putting away his rival with a Sunset Flip. When Pillman wiggled free, Marlena intervened, whacking the "Loose Cannon" in the face with her purse before Goldust rolled him up for the victory. Before exiting, Goldust tossed a mannequin sporting Pillman's dress into the ring, prompting the loser of this clash to pitch a temper tantrum and destroy the mannequin.







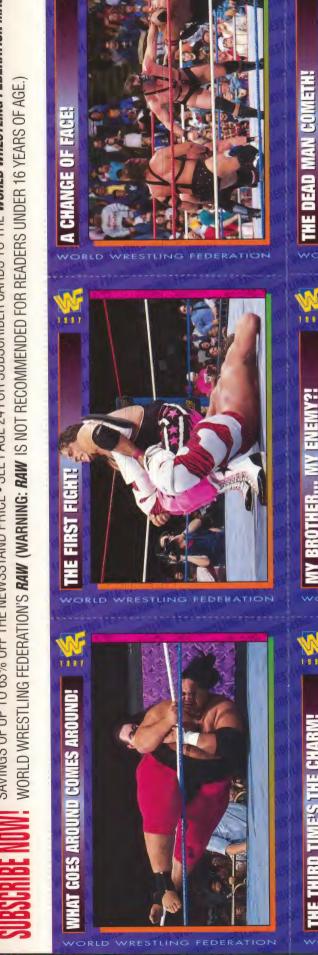
"Them boys just ain't gettin' it!
This thing will never be over!"



the ring apron, deliberately propelling him into the guardrail.

But when Phineas leaped off the ropes toward Animal, the hillbilly dove straight into a clothesline. Hawk tagged in and aggravated Henry's injury with a reverse neckbreaker. Both members of L.O.D. took turns clotheslining Henry in the corner and then Animal and Hawk victimized Phineas with a spike piledriver, securing the win.



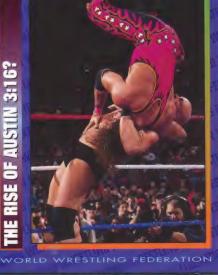








I LOVE YOU, MAN... NOT!!!



THE THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM!





HUNTER HEARST-HELMSLEY

"How am I expected to beat an opponent who doesn't even know who the hell he is?!"

MANKIND

"Did you see me? Did you see me up there? I WAS SUPERFLY JIMMY SNUKA!!!"

MANKIND VS. HUNTER HEARST-HELMSLEY

hese two bitter enemies took their longstanding feud into a steel cage. Around the wrestling world, observers wondered whether the purpose of the pen was to lock the mortal adversaries in... or Helmsley's interfering bodyguard Chyna out.

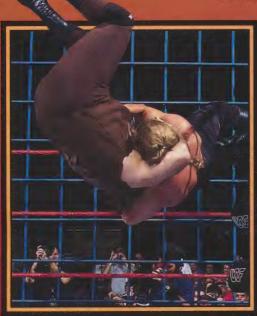
Helmsley tried to gain an early victory, bolting through the door of the enclosure. But Mankind was wise to the scheme, pulled his foe back into the middle of the ring, battered him, delivered a piledriver and then clamped on the Mandible Claw. Chyna rose to her employer's defense, hopping up on the cage, sticking her hands through the bars and choking Mankind.

She next intervened when Mankind maneuvered his way to the top of the cage, by reaching up and slugging him between the legs and allowing Hunter to clamber up the bars and execute a stunning suplex down to the canvas. Later, when Mankind tried stepping out of the corral, Chyna

slammed the door on his skull. As the referee stomped over to scold her, she smashed his head into the ring steps and hurled a chair over the cage to her charge.

With Chyna pressing herself against the cage, Helmsley positioned the chair on the mat and went for a Pedigree onto the object. Mankind grabbed his opponent's legs and tripped him—causing Helmsley to crash on top of the chair—and then monkey-flipped him into Chyna.

After administering a DDT onto the chair, Mankind ascended the bars, went over the top and almost made it to the bottom, when he decided to transform himself into his alter ego, Dude Love. He removed his face mask, opened his shirt—revealing Dude Love's heart tattoo—climbed back up and flew off the top onto his opponent—in the style of Dude Love's mat idol, Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka. Chyna made an effort to pull HHH through the cage door, but Mankind slipped up the pen and down to the arena floor first. (For more exclusive photos of this match see the November/December issue of the RAW Magazine.)









BRITISH BULLDOG

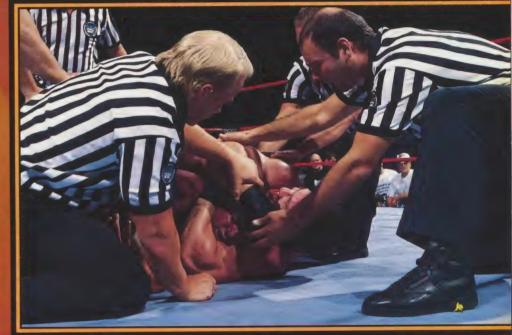
"What a disgrace to this great sport! Ken Shamrock wouldn't know what class and sportsmanship are even if they slapped him across the face!"

KEN SHAMROCK

"I may have lost my cool, but the British Bulldog is gonna lose a lot more than that!!"

can of dog food and flattening it against the Bulldog's head. The referee called for a disqualification, but Shamrock didn't seem to care—knocking down the official, clamping a sleeper on the Bulldog, falling onto the canvas and using a full body grapevine to further choke out the Britisher.

Bulldog reddened and lost consciousness, but Shamrock refused to let go. When he finally did, Shamrock vented his rage on the World Wrestling Federation officials who'd piled into the ring, suplexing Federation officials Pat Patterson and Jerry Brisco, along with two referees.







OWEN HART (WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION) VS. STONE COLD STEVE AUSTIN

hand. But Owen was a little too cocky for his own good—when he charged his foe, he was snared out of the air and dropped, neck-first, across the top rope.

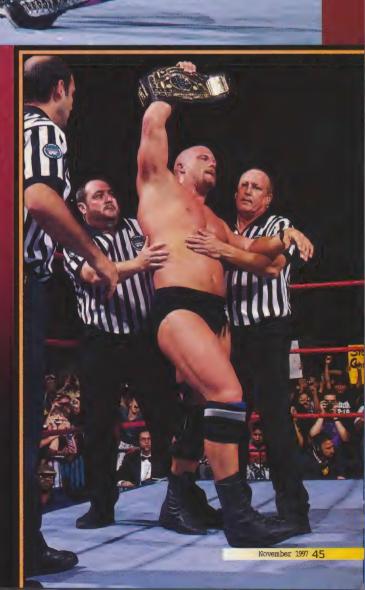
After a Powerbomb, Austin clotheslined his foe over the ring strands, sending the champion scrambling back to the locker room. Seeing the title slipping away from him, Austin raced after Owen and pulled him back to the ring.

Regaining his senses, Hart overwhelmed Austin with a suplex, neckbreaker, legdrop, elbow from the top rope, German suplex, camel clutch and DDT. Austin had suffered neck problems in the past, and Owen was clearly exploiting this. Hart tried a sleeper, but Austin reached over his head and broke free with a jaw jacker. Austin slung Hart off the ropes and turned him upside down on the rebound.

Twisting about, Owen managed to reverse positions with his foe and nearly cripple him with a piledriver. Austin could barely move on the mat—he was later transported to a local hospital—and Hart momentarily halted the assault to shout his praises at the crowd. Miraculously, Stone Cold crawled up behind his adversary, gripped his leg and rolled him into a pinning combination to win the Intercontinental Title.



World Wrestling Federation Magazine

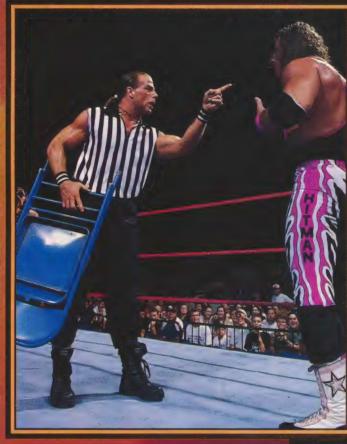




"Shawn Michaels did something tonight that he will regret for the rest of his life!

attempt a version of the Sharpshooter. Undertaker broke free, kicking Bret on top of Michaels, knocking him drowsy. As Shawn tried regaining his senses, Hart clobbered the Undertaker with a chair. Then, after Michaels continued officiating, he noticed the weapon lying on the apron and confronted Bret about it. As the

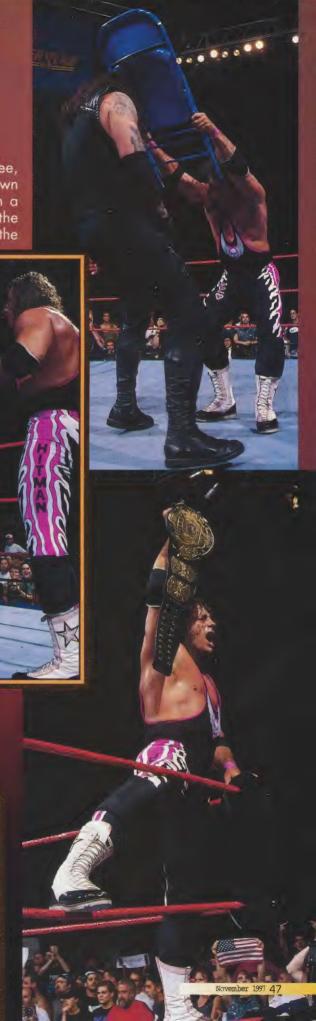
two stood face-to-face, Hit Man spat at the Heartbreak Kid, inciting him to swing the chair. Unfortunately for the Undertaker, Bret managed to duck and the champion got nailed, dropping to the canvas. As Hart quickly covered his foe, Shawn hesitated canvas, grudgingly registering the three-count. The fans looked on in disbelief, while listening to the ring announcer declare Hart the new World Wrestling Federation Champion and watching Undertaker lumber back to the locker room in search of Shawn Michaels, WF



SHAWN MICHAELS

"Regrets? I only have one—that I wasn't born sooner so that I could have spent more time with myself!"







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By Keith Elliot Greenberg

Bret and Owen Hart, Marc Mero and Shawn Michaels embarrassing gladiators who had previously gotten by on their muscle. Today, the World Wrestling Federation has become a mecca for wrestlers tipping the scales at around 215 pounds, men who look average in street clothes, but tear up the ring once they've changed into tights.

Perhaps no one embodies the vibrance of the Light Heavyweight Division as well as Japan's Taka Michinoku. Weighing in at 185 pounds. Michinoku established himself in a tussle against his countryman, the Great Sasuke, on a recent Pay-Per-View extravaganza from Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Most pundits were certain the blackhooded Sasuke would not only triumph, but completely dominate his opponent. Minutes into the match, they were re-evaluating their forecast, as Michinoku nearly knocked out Sasuke with the heel of the right hand. With Sasuke reeling and slumped in the sitting position, Michinoku startled the crowd by dropkicking his foe in the head.

Later, when Sasuke retreated to the arena floor, Michinoku was right behind him, racing across the ring, hopping onto the top rope and flattening the masked sensation with a "springboard plancha". But Sasuke was far from finished. He soon hit Michinoku with a "springboard moonsault," standing on the apron, vaulting to the second rope and leveling Taka with a moonsault on the arena floor. When Michinoku attempted a top rope dive, Sasuke met him with a dropkick, executed a powerbomb and



Facing overwhelming odds against the Great Sasuke, Taka Michinoku proved his ability to the American fans.

ended the match with the "thunder firebomb," hooking Taka's arms from behind, suplexing him backwards and holding him in a pinning position while bridging the neck.

The next night, the pair squared off in a rematch on RAW IS WAR. Determined to recapture the "face" he'd lost the day before, Sasuke quickly hit Michinoku in the ribs with a spinning kick, knocking him out of the ring. Running the ropes, Sasuke propelled himself over the strands, splattering onto his foe at ringside. The 23-year-old Michinoku replied with a dropkick from the ropes to the back of Sasuke. As the masked grappler fell to ringside, Taka lept to the middle of the top rope, turned himself around and moonsaulted onto his

opponent. Once again, Sasuke rebounded, putting away his foe with the thunder firebomb.

Even after two consecutive losses, Michinoku refused to give up his dream of ruling the World Wrestling Federation Light Heavyweight Division. He kept stepping between the ropes, night after night, building his reputation by combining technical wrestling with martial arts. Within several weeks, he was winning every match. And fans were carefully scrutinizing not only Taka Michinoku, but every other World Wrestling Federation light heavyweight as well.

Many immediately anointed Scott Putski to guide the division into the 21st century, based on the



tradition he inherited from his father-World Wrestling Federation Hall of Famer Ivan Putski. Of course, Ivan made his name by taking the opposite approach from most of today's light heavyweights. The Polish strongman was partial to keeping his feet planted firmly on the mat and relying on his incredible brawn to chop down opponents as they flew at him. While that strategy may have worked in the 1970s, Scott Putski realized that in order to thrive near the dawn of the 21st century, a more dynamic repertoire was required. Like his peers, he studied tapes of the most spectacular heavyweights light around the world and incorporated Japanese armdrags, reverse victory rolls and belly-to-belly suplexes into his arsenal. But he also shares the same compact build of his father, who schooled the young man well in taking out foes with power moves. Shortly after entering

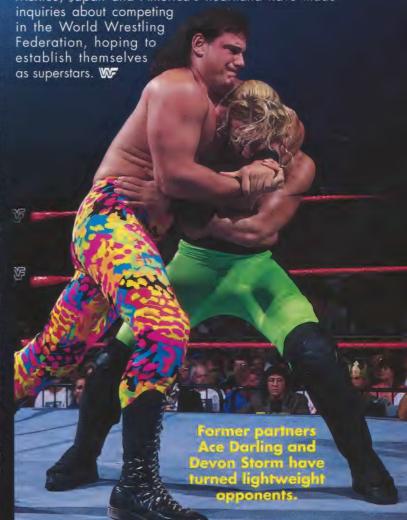
Shortly after entering the World Wrestling Federation, Putski found himself embroiled in conflict with "Too Sexy" Brian Christopher, a combatant rumored to be the son of Jerry "The King" Lawler. If the charge is true, it would certainly make sense. For all of Christopher's other attributes, the

youngster seems incapable of fathoming the notion of sportsmanship, choosing to humiliate his rivals with cheap shots and low blows. But he's also quite adept at dazzling them with mat savvy. Among his favorite tactics: dropkicks delivered from the turnbuckles to the back of the head; legdrops from the top rope; and bending an adversary forward, draping a foot around the back of his neck and driving the victim's head into the canvas.

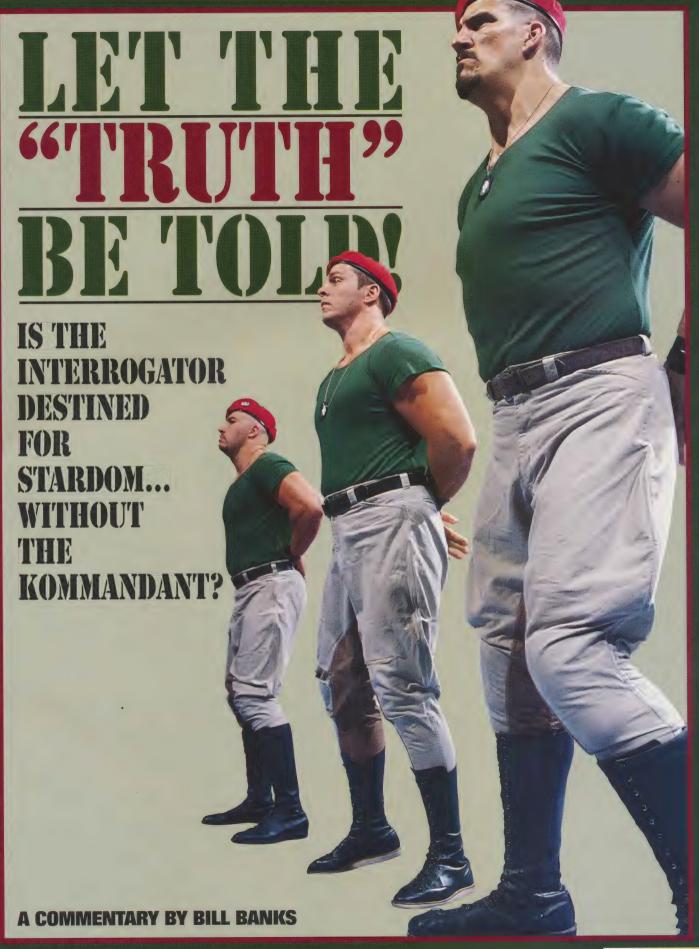
On the opposite end of the spectrum is Devon Storm; a wrestler so positive and even tempered that some have wondered whether he chose the right career. Devon answers the skeptics every time he enters the ring. In a recent conflict, he squared off against Ace Darling. Devon won the match, but Darling showed that, on another night, under mildly different circumstances, he's the one who'd get the duke. At one point, Ace stood face-to-face with Devon and then he sprang forward—turning toward the ground in mid-air—wrapped his legs around Storm's mid-section and twisted onto the canvas for a near-fall. The clash ended when Devon lifted his adversary for a powerbomb. Darling hooked his legs around his opponent's head, rolling him onto the mat. But Devon kept rolling and managed to come out on top.

In the Light Heavyweight Division, Scott Taylor has largely played the role of the underdog. While a glimpse at his win-loss record shows a man who has racked up a disproportionate amount of losses, the picture is deceiving. In every match he has lost, the high-flying, high-impact Taylor has sent his opponent home bruised and grateful that the contest ended when it did. The wrestler has learned from every mistake and hopes to use that knowledge to transform himself into a household name. A glimmer of his potential shone through not long ago when he took a pounding from tough Leif Cassidy on RAW IS WAR, then suddenly cradled him for an upset victory.

At this writing, light heavyweights from Europe, Mexico, Japan and America's heartland have made









the Kommandant has complete control of his troops in and out of the squared circle. Before entering the "big time", this Delta Force sharpened their skills in the United States Wrestling Association (U.S.W.A.) under the leadership of their strategist. While rumors continue to surface about the possible legitimate military background of Recon and Sniper, many insiders claim that the "rookie" of the group—the Interrogator—was hand picked by the Kommandant based on his size alone! Could it be that. unlike his partners, the giant of the group has no military training whatsoever—and it may be just a matter of time before the monster stops taking orders from a man content to bask in the glory of his proteges?

For those not familiar with him, the Interrogator was discovered in the Maritimes Championship Wrestling organization in the Great White North while competing as the "Canadian Giant". In that territory, this grappler was raw and undisciplined... although impressively agile for his size. The Kommandant—no doubt seeing potential in this mauler-might very well have uprooted the Interrogator from his homeland and fed him a steady diet of grueling boot camp training. Like the movie monster who was taken from his beloved jungle, this move may one day come back to haunt the leader of the Truth Commission when he learns the Interrogator lacks the appropriate military background necessary for proper disciplinary

action!

An example of the problem that the Kommandant may soon face can be found in the recent history of the Federation, as manager Bobby Heenan found out first-hand in the late 80s. There was no controlling the biggest of them all—the legendary Andre the Giant. While riding on the coat tails of the Eighth Wonder of the World, Heenan was able to capitalize financially on the superstar's Federation Title win. "The Brain" got greedy, however, and foolishly believed he could manhandle the seven-plus-foot wonder following Andre and Haku's loss of the Tag Team Title in 1990. What tollowed was a display of profound authority, as the Giant put such a beating on Heenan that the devious manager might still be smarting today from the late Hall of Famer's return fire.

While some might be banking on the Kommandant losing control of the Interrogator by overasserting his rule, others believe the lure of the Federation spotlight might be just as damaging to the group's cohesiveness. In the rich

history of the "big time", it's no secret that the "marketing suits" have always coveted the big men to drive in the almighty dollar. Some of those same officials believe that "whither the giants goeth, so goes the Federation"... a theory which has been proven countless times by the number of fans these impressive human specimens put in the seats. While clearly never demonstrating the technical prowess of a Bret Hart or a Shawn Michaels, grapplers like Mabel, Zeus, Giant Gonzales and Diesel were able to impress fans. Because of this fact, Federation officials recognized "size = marketability" and raised them to a higher pedestal

As a result, it may be just a matter of time before those same Titan "suits" get their hands on the Interrogator—a superstar with not only size but also profound ability—and begin flashing promises of glory in his eyes. After all, with a mountain of cash and title matches beckoning, the giant might soon realize he no longer needs a drill instructor continuously barking orders at him. Remember-it's the Truth Commission that needs the Interrogator, not the other way around! If the Delta Force were to somehow lose their crown jewel, Recon and Sniper would be at an extreme disadvantage against the other factions currently reigning chaos in the Federation. As big as he is, some say the Interrogator embodies the power of two men, making the Commission just as lethal as the Hart Foundation, Los Boricuas, D.O.A. and the New Nation of Domination. Without him, they're dead in the water while he might very well begin a career path paved with gold.

As the Kommandant looks nothing at all like Faye Wray, it seems no one will stop this modern-day King Kong from breaking out of his rusty cage... WF

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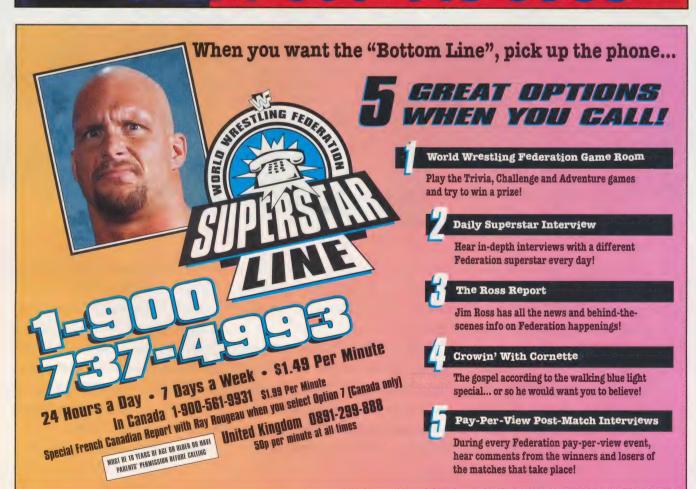


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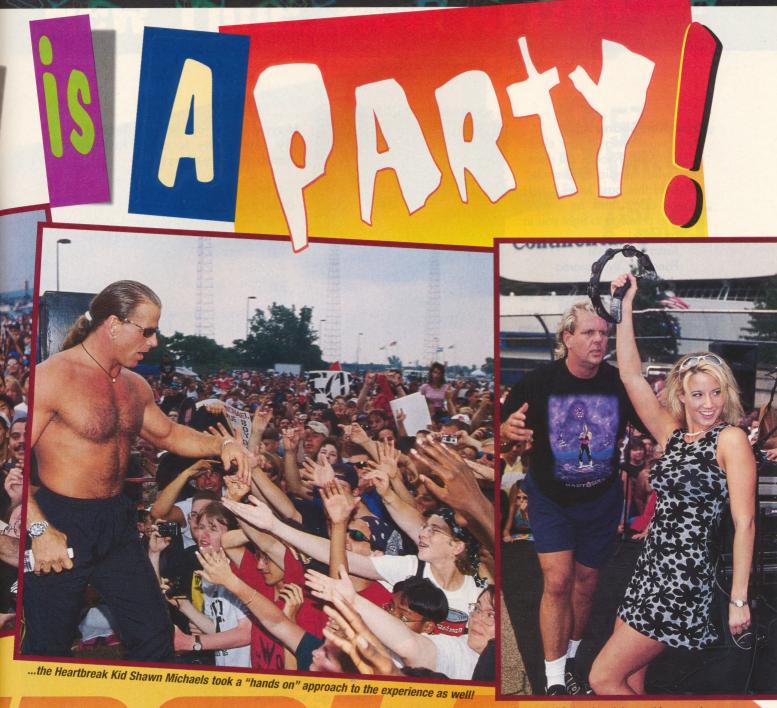
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Hendrix served as the master of ceremonies as he introduced another musical act—Company 6. This band kept the crowd of an estimated 15,000 entertained by playing many contemporary hits along with the entrance music of the crowd's favorite superstars.

Of course, the hit of the party were the SummerSlam competitors

who stopped by to address the fans before donning their ring attire. The Legion of Doom were on hand and they correctly predicted a victory that evening over the Godwinns. Also, the climate certainly became very SUNNY when the Golden Haired Fox made an appearance!

The first few rows got more than they had bargained for when the

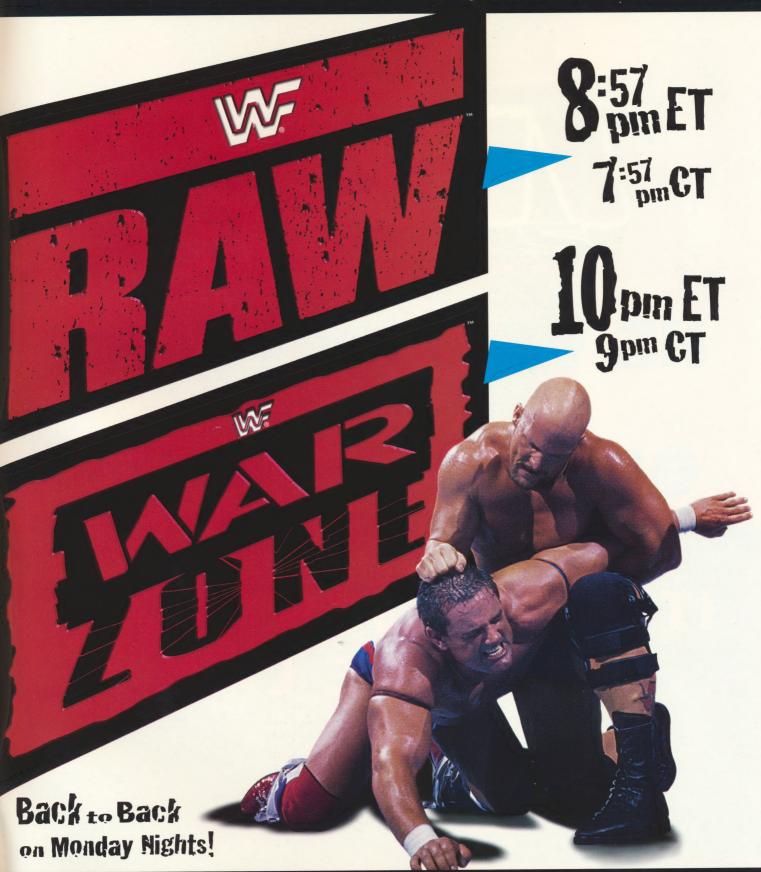
Sunny and Dok enjoyed the soothing sounds of steel drums prior to the Pay-Per-View event along with the superstar appearances!

Headbangers dove into the "mosh pit" and went crowd surfing. The Heartbreak Kid Shawn Michaels also said a few words, along with crowd favorite Stone Cold Steve Austin, Captain Lou Albano, the "Loose Cannon" Brian Pillman and Honky Tonk Man.

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